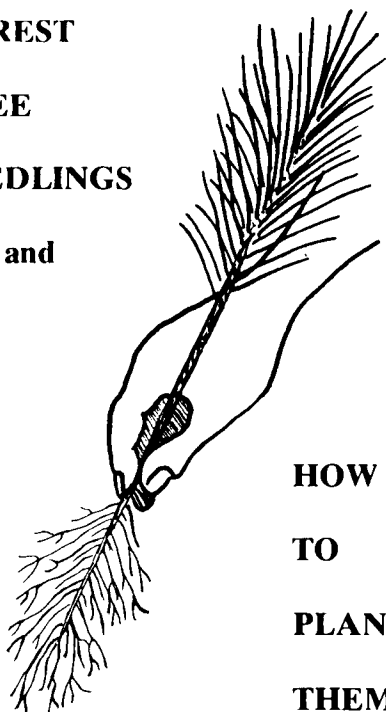


# **FOREST TREE SEEDLINGS**

**and**



**HOW  
TO  
PLANT  
THEM**



**LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
& FORESTRY**

**OFFICE OF FORESTRY**

**Post Office Box 1628**

**Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821-1628**

**Telephone (504) 925-4500**

All facilities, programs, and services of the Louisiana Department of Agriculture & Forestry are available to all persons. Discrimination is prohibited and should be reported to the Commissioner of Agriculture and Forestry.

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**CONSULT A FORESTER. . .**

The Louisiana Office of Forestry suggests that you consult a professional forester prior to planting. He can inspect your tract and advise you on species to plant, spacing, site preparation, timber stand improvement, and other important considerations.

In addition, he can provide continued forestry advice as your new timber stand matures.

**SUCCESSFUL TREE PLANTING. . .**

Proper care of the seedlings from the time they are received from the nursery until they are planted in the ground is essential. Careless handling and planting cause poor survival, and therefore, they are costly. By following the suggestions herein, which are based on years of experience, your tree planting project can be successful.

**WHEN TO PLANT. . .**

Mid-December through March is the only recommended period.

**SUGGESTED SPACINGS. . .**

The distance between trees determines the final wood product and how soon the product is produced. The most common spacing for pine plantings is eight feet by eight feet, or 680 trees per acre. For hardwood and baldcypress plantings, a spacing of twelve feet by twelve feet or 302 trees per acre, is recommended. Adjustments to these spacings are sometimes advisable, and therefore the advice of a forester is recommended.

**SITE PREPARATION. . .**

It may be necessary to make certain preparations prior to planting in order to obtain better survival. Such preparation could include brush eradication, scalping or disking of heavy sod, or the use of heavy equipment for complete ground preparation. The best method for a specific tract can be determined by a forester.

At least three months should elapse between bulldozing and/or disking and planting.

**SEEDLINGS STOCK . . .**

The Louisiana Office of Forestry operates three nurseries for the production of forest tree planting stock for landowners of the state:

BEARURGARD NURSERY  
P. O. Drawer 935  
DeRidder, LA 70634  
Telephone 318/463-5509

COLUMBIA NURSERY  
P. O. Box 1388  
Columbia, LA 71418-1388  
Telephone 318/649-7463

OBERLIN NURSERY  
P. O. Box N  
Oberlin, LA 70655  
Telephone 318/639-2911

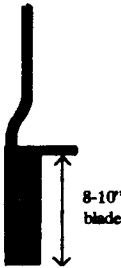
**DIRECT SEEDING . . .**

This method of reforestation can be put to good use where the conditions permit. Get the advice of your forester. It may be less costly to seed than to plant.

**HOW TO ORDER . . .**

Applications for seedlings must be made on forms furnished by the Louisiana Office of Forestry through any of its locations. They may also be obtained from your County Agent and Soil Conservation Service. Prices are listed on current seedling application forms. For planting advice, consult on of the above. Order early to be sure of supply.

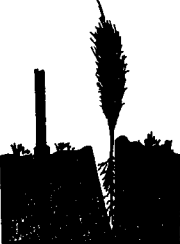
**T  
DIBBLE PLANTING**



*1. Insert dibble at angle shown, and push forward to upright position.*



*2. Remove dibble and place seedling at correct depth.*



*3. Insert dibble about four inches away from seedling.*



*4. Pull handle to firm soil at bottom of seedling's roots.*



*5. Push handle to firm soil at top of seedling's roots.*

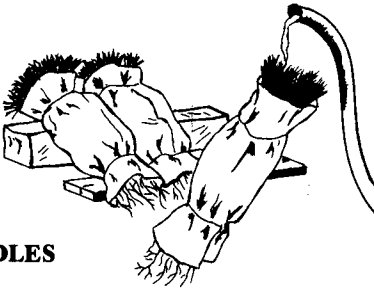


*6. Fill in last hole by stamping with heel.*



*7. Firm soil around seedling with feet.*

**HANDLING OF SEEDLINGS. . .**



**BUNDLES**

Seedlings may be left in bundles up to four weeks if stored and watered properly.

Water thoroughly each week through one end of the bundle.

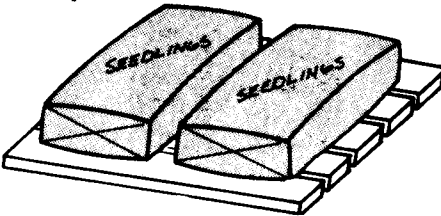
Lay the bundles on their sides with one end of each raised to allow excess water to drain out.

Store the bundles in a cool, shady spot.

Allow for good ventilation.

**BAGS**

Spread the bags in a cool, well-ventilated building where they will not freeze.

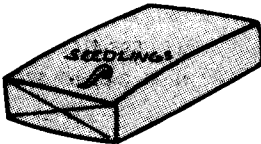


**DO NOT STACK THEM!**

**KEEP BAGS OUT OF DIRECT SUNLIGHT AT ALL TIMES.**

**DO NOT OPEN UNTIL READY TO PLANT.** Tightly closed bags will keep seedlings from drying.

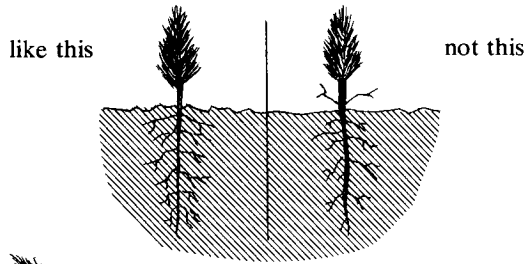
**CHECK BAGS FOR HOLES OR TEARS.**



**TAPE HOLES TO PREVENT DRYING.**

## PLANTING DEPTH. . .

Plant the seedlings as deep as or slightly deeper than grown at the nursery. Trees not planted as deeply as grown in the nursery have a poorer chance for survival.

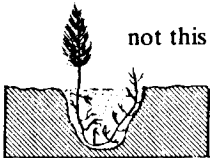


Plant seedlings upright  
—not at angle.

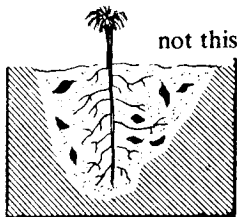
ABOVE ALL, DO NOT PERMIT ROOTS TO DRY OUT. Wrap the roots in burlap or plastic to prevent drying. Wet moss or thick muddy water in a bucket will protect the roots.



ROOTS MUST NOT BE CRAMMED INTO PLANTING HOLE so that they become "U" shaped or curled-up. Roots should be spread out in hole.



ALWAYS PLANT IN CLEAN SOIL. Never plant trees in loose leaves, litter, or other debris or allow such materials to become pulled into planting hole. Clean soil must be tightly packed around the seedling.

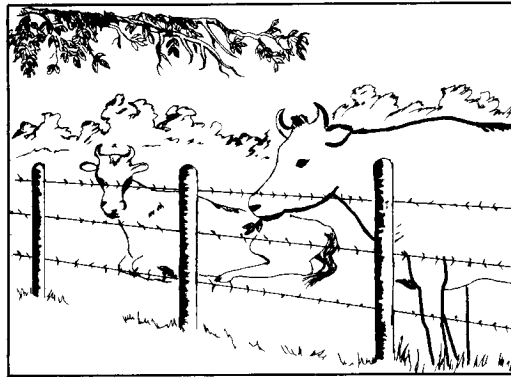


DO NOT LEAVE BAGS OR BUNDLES OPEN WHEN PLANTING. Close bags or bundles by rolling down the tops after opening to remove part of the seedlings.

Trees should not be planted during freezing weather or when the ground is frozen. Freezing weather greatly reduces the tree's chances for survival.

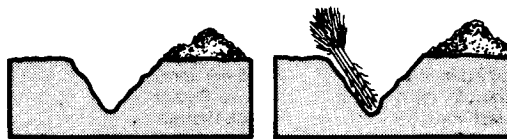
## PROTECT. . .

The planted trees must be protected from live-stock grazing, wildfires, forest insects and diseases.



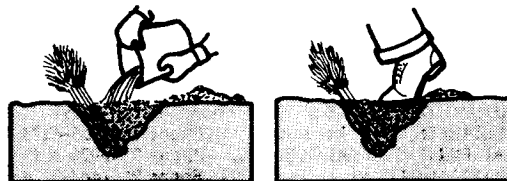
## IF NOT PLANTED WITHIN FOUR WEEKS

If the seedlings are not to be planted within four weeks of receiving date, they should be "heeled in."



1. Dig V-shaped trench in moist shady place.

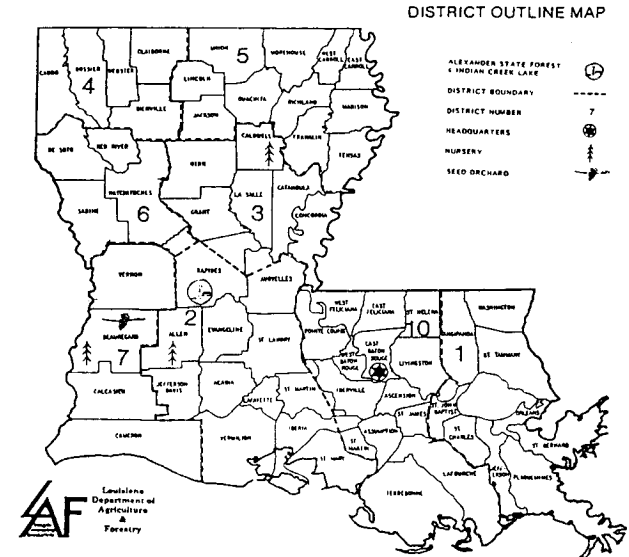
2. Open package and spread out evenly along trench.



3. Replace part of the soil and water well.

4. Complete filling in soil and pack soil with feet.

Obtain assistance from the Louisiana Office of Forestry headquarters nearest you.



## OFFICE OF FORESTRY DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS:

- D - 1 47076 N Morrison Boulevard  
Hammond, Louisiana 70401-7309  
(504) 543-4057
- D - 2 Post Office Box 459  
Oberlin, LA 70655  
(318) 639-4978
- D - 3 Post Office Box 578  
Olla, LA 71465  
(318) 495-5218
- D - 4 Post Office Box 550  
Minden, LA 71058-0550  
(318) 371-3007
- D - 5 122 St. John St., Room 329  
Monroe, LA 71201-7338  
(318) 362-3141
- D - 6 Post Office Box 137  
Natchitoches, LA 71458-0137  
(318) 357-3126
- D - 7 Post Office Box 337  
DeRidder, LA 70634  
(318) 463-7801
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